# Infrastructure Workshop Hydropower R & D

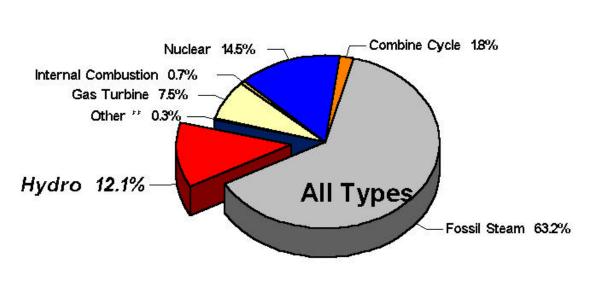


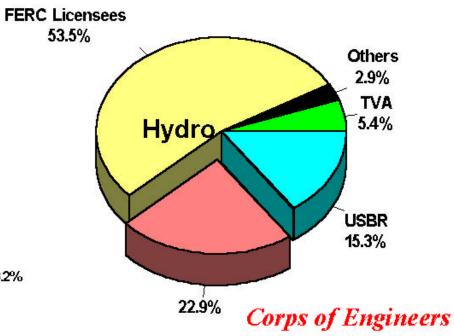
James A. (Jim) Norlin, P.E.
Hydroelectric Design Center
Portland, Oregon, USA

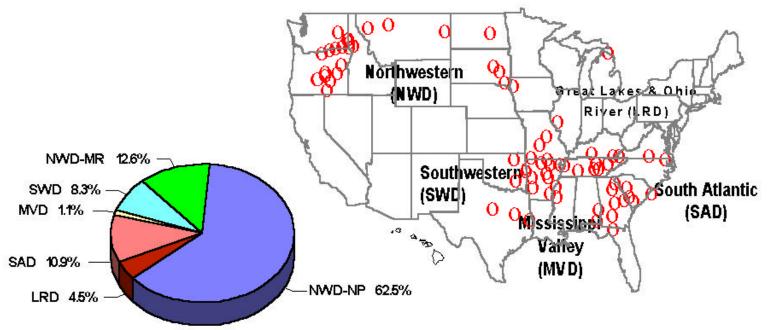
### Corps' Hydropower Mission

- Began in 1920's
- 75 powerhouses
- 21,000 MW installed capacity
- 349 main generating units

### **US Generation Capacities** and Corps Projects







### Hydropower Investment

- Nearly \$20 Billion
- Effectively 4th largest utility in the US
- Major player in hydropower business

### Aging Infrastructure

- Average Project Age ~ 40 years
- Decreasing Reliability
- Increasing Forced Outages
- Maintenance Backlog
- Budget Constraints
  - **♦**0&M
  - ◆ Major Rehab

### Hydroelectric Design Center

- Centralized design for hydropower
- Mostly mechanical and electrical engineers



#### Collaboration within USACE

- IWR Project evaluation methods, Risk Analysis, Quadrant, etc
- CERL Greaseless Bushings, Spray Metal Coatings for cavitation, Environmentally Friendly Lubricants, Condition Indicators
- WES Fish Passage, Hydraulics

# Collaboration with Hydropower Industry

- DOE Hydropower R&D Summit
- HCI Publications & Hydro Research Foundation R&D Forum
- Electrical Power Research Institute
- BC Hydro
- ASME
- IEEE

### Hydropower Issues

- Restructuring of electric power industry
- Reliability of electrical system
- Local environmental issues
- Energy security fuel sources and costs
- Global climate change
- Economy

# Effects of Restructuring and Deregulation

- Industry turmoil and positioning
- Cost cutting
- Competition
- Public furor
- Lack of collaboration and cooperation
- Dramatic changes in operational priorities

### Hydropower R&D Needs

- Project Evaluation Tools
  - ◆ Update Risk Analysis databases and tools
  - ◆ Finish Condition Indicators
  - ◆ Greenhouse Gas Reductions

### Hydropower R&D Needs

- Environmental
  - ◆ Environmentally Friendly Lubricants
  - Greaseless Bushings
  - ◆Fish Passage through Turbines
  - ◆Enhancement of Dissolved Oxygen
  - ◆ Removal of Red Lead Paint

### Hydropower R&D Needs

- Reliability and Operational Improvements
  - ◆ Shaft Stress Methodology
  - ◆ Absolute Flow Measurement
  - ◆ Unit and Plant Optimization

### Hydropower R&D Summary

- Funding needed to finish existing projects
- Funding needed to collaborate with other Federal Agencies
- Hydropower R&D Forum